

**Meeting Date:** May 18, 2006

**Agenda Item No.** 24

**Agenda Item:** Land Legacy Project update

**Approved by:** TTT

**Prepared by:** Gregg Servheen

**Background:**

During the May 2006 workshop in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; the Commission heard IDFG staff presentations about how accelerating changes in Idaho land use threaten fish and wildlife habitats and populations, fish and wildlife recreation, and public access.

During the workshop the Department presented ideas on how the Department might best address these issues. These ideas focused on developing a funding source using an endowment or trust, to provide a tool to work with landowners such as ranchers, private timberland owners, farmers, and citizens to steward both Idaho's fish and wildlife in concert with working landscapes.

Since then, Department staff has been moving these ideas forward and is providing an update to the Commission a year later. Information in this update include status reports on: 1) development of the Idaho Land Legacy report, 2) efforts to negotiate settlement agreements for wildlife mitigation debt with BPA and Tribal partners, 3) sale of surplus lands, and 4) establishment of a Land Legacy Trust or Endowment.

**Policy issues:**

Habitat protection, land acquisition, fish and wildlife recreation, public access

**Public Involvement Process:**

None as of yet

**Justification:**

Loss of fish and wildlife habitat, migration and linkage areas, and public access

**Action Requested:**

None

**Staff Recommendations:**

Continue efforts of Idaho Land Legacy Project